



# **BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 2014 Annual Report**

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# MISSION STATEMENT

**The Burlington Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life for our citizens, in partnership with our community, through fair and professional police services.**

# VISION STATEMENT






**The Burlington Police Department is a professional Law Enforcement agency, dynamic and responsive in confronting the diverse needs of our community, always striving for excellence while adhering to the highest standards for the Law Enforcement Profession.**

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

**W**elcome and thank you for picking up a copy of our 2014 Annual Report. I think you will find this document loaded with timely information about the Burlington Police Department. 2014 was a busy year for us with many transitions and changes. We are looking forward to an equally busy 2015 as we watch policing in America continue to evolve in the wake of Ferguson and other key events around the country. When you have finished with this document, pass it along to a friend. Then come on down to the station and get involved. We have ride alongs, a Citizen's Police Academy and plenty of opportunities for volunteers!



# POLICING WITH A PURPOSE

-  **Nurture and Protect Democracy**
-  **Ensure Justice and Fundamental Fairness**
-  **Spirit of Service**
-  **Protect the Community from Harm**
-  **Treat all individuals with Dignity and Respect-the ethical foundation of policing.**



# DEPARTMENTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS (2014)

**CAD/RMS FUNCTIONALITY:** In 1996, the Burlington Police Department contracted with OSS/ SunGard for a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)/Records Management System (RMS). Over the years we have paid them \$1.6 million in purchase and maintenance fees. We have now recognized degradation in the system operations due to a combination of issues including system settings, user error, lack of training, and poor management/integration techniques. We were able to reengage with the vendor in order to study and evaluate the issues and dramatically improve the functionality of this system. Additional training has been provided and we hope to hire a full time integration/management specialist in 2015.

**AVL:** For years we have been able to record the speed of police vehicles using a “tac-to-graph” system. We removed this antiquated system and installed the Automated Vehicle Locator system. This new system uses satellite information to plot the exact location of police cars and allow for more efficient dispatch operations and increased officer safety.

**HIRING:** The department has an assertive recruitment program and is seeking to hire a broad range of officers that more accurately reflect the community we serve. In 2013, nearly 78% of the sworn officers were white males and in 2014 we were able to hire 40% from categories other than white male moving us in the right direction. We hired six white males, one Hispanic male, two white females, and one black female for a total of 10 officers in 2014. We also hired an additional 7 civilian positions for the jobs of animal services, tele communicator, and a Police Department civilian. We also recruit volunteers and encourage interns to gain experience in law enforcement.

**LOBBY COMPUTER KIOSK:** At times, a line can form at the Records Window. We have installed a computer kiosk allowing citizens immediate access to download police reports. The computer can also be used to complete a variety of satisfaction surveys regarding police services.

**PEER SUPPORT TEAM:** In order to better care for the emotional wellbeing of our employees, we formed a Peer Support Team. This well trained group of officers and civilian staff can provide support and assistance to employees who have been involved in a critical incident or who are experiencing the stresses of police work.

**TRAINING:** The department offered over 15,000 hours of training to officers and civilian staff in areas of leadership, physical fitness, officer safety, subject control, and other areas for the betterment of our personnel and better service delivery.

**ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS (ATF) TASK FORCE ASSIGNMENT:** In April 2014, an investigator was assigned to be a Task Force Officer (TFO) with the ATF. This was the first time that this agency had a TFO associated with the ATF.

**ALAMANCE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TEAM (ANET):** The Burlington Police Department joined forces with ALL of the other municipalities in the county and the Alamance Sheriff's Office to form this task force in November of 2014. This operational model should be highly effective moving forward in order to impact the drug trade in Alamance County.

**INVESTIGATIONS TO FOCUS ON CRITICAL CASES:** There were 8,649 cases reviewed by CID in



2013 and in 2014, that number was reduced to 6,975. This reduction has allowed the investigators to focus more on their assigned cases and carry a caseload that is manageable.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY:** Achieved a voluntary seat belt compliance ratio of 91-93% compared with the state average of below 85%.

**ANIMAL SERVICES ACCOMPLISHED A NUMBER OF TASKS INCLUDING:**

- Passing of the new “Tethering” ordinance requiring dogs to be properly cared for and not merely restrained on a rope or chain 24 hours per day.
- From the previous year, we accomplished: 16% decrease in animal admissions at the shelter; 7% Increase in Spay/Neuter Procedures performed at the Spay & Neuter Clinic of Alamance County; 27% reduction in the number of animals euthanized; and 32% increase in animal placements (adoption, rescue transfer and returned to owner).
- Held 9 fee-reduced adoption events; participated in multiple community events and used a variety of television, digital, social and print media to promote animals and services

## DEPARTMENTAL CHALLENGES (2015)

**SUCCESSION PLANNING:** The police department has a number of key leadership positions set to retire over the next three years. During that time frame we will replace both assistant chiefs and all four of the captains. While we have been gearing up our training programs over the last two years, we must continue to focus on leadership development in order to have the best staff possible to move into these critical positions.

**STAFFING AND ATTRITION:** In any given year over the last five years we have faced an attrition rate of about 10%. Knowing that it takes more than eight months to recruit, hire and train a new police officer, it is vitally important that we assertively manage this process. It can cost us up to \$200,000 to replace a veteran officer and the new officer may not be performing at peak abilities for several years. Maintaining adequate staffing will be a challenge in 2015.

**IMPLEMENTING TECHNOLOGY:** The events around the country in 2014 have led to substantial dialogue about the use of body worn cameras for police. There is also discussion about the use of surveillance cameras, lap top computers in the cars, license plate readers (LPR), automatic vehicle locator (AVL) systems and even unmanned drones providing aerial surveillance for traffic crashes and SWAT events. The department has a special committee tasked with evaluating and making recommendations on all of our technology acquisitions. We expect to purchase and implement body cameras for all officers by the end of 2015



**TRAINING:** Currently our training is conducted largely on the officers' day off. This is required to maintain minimum staff in patrol and comes at a cost of over \$125,000 each year. Our goal is to restructure the patrol schedule allowing training to be conducted during duty hours. Training is essential to maintaining critical skills and expanding the knowledge base of our employees. We expect to conduct another 15,000 hours of training in 2015.

**DEPARTMENTAL FITNESS PROGRAM:** The department will continue to implement our fitness standards in stages allowing employees time to voluntarily comply with the regulations. We will continue to invest time and money in the department training facility in order to provide employees the best opportunities to succeed. Nutrition classes are also provided.

**PROMOTIONAL TESTING:** In 2014 we contracted with an outside vendor to create an objective and job based assessment center for promotions. For 2015, we will be managing this promotional process using existing resources saving the city \$30,000. This promotional model is labor intensive and we are excited to execute it ourselves. The promotional list will be valid for one year.

**LETHALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (LAP):** We have submitted and received a grant from the Office on Violence against Women (OVW) in the Department of Justice. The grant will provide technical assistance and training in order to implement a lethality assessment program later in 2015. We expect this training and protocol will help reduce domestic violence and save lives. The grant is in cooperation between the PD and Family Justice Center. This cooperation between these two entities is paramount for this initiative to be successful.

# ORGANIZATION CHART



## OPERATIONS BUREAU Assistant Chief Eric Kerns



**Community Relations Division**  
Captain Chad Slaughter



**Community Relations Division**  
Lieutenant Bret Currie



**Crime Prevention**  
(Neighborhood Watch, Alarms,  
Crime Stoppers)

**Communications Section**  
Supervisor Anna Curtis



**Community Policing**  
(Neighborhood Teams, Community Outreach)

**Traffic Unit**  
Sergeant Reid Metters



**DARE, School Resource Officers,  
Junior Police Academy**

**Parking Enforcement**  
Supervisor Lenora Taylor



Parking Enforcement,  
School Crossing Guards, Desk Personnel

**Emergency Management**  
Director Roger Manuel



**Canine Program, Honor Guard,  
Explorer Post, Reserve Officers**

**Patrol Division**  
Captain Brett Taylor



**Patrol Shift A**  
Lieutenant Mark Rascoe



**Teams 1 and 5**  
Sergeants  
Mike Grusky & Avery Irby



**Patrol Shift B**  
Lieutenant John Bigelow



**Teams 2 and 6**  
Sergeants  
Wendy Jordan & Shane Brown



**Patrol Shift C**  
Lieutenant Chuck Ward



**Teams 3 and 7**  
Sergeants  
Sammy Epps & Stacey Thompson



**Patrol Shift D**  
Lieutenant Brian Long



**Teams 4 and 8**  
Sergeants  
Amy Isley & Todd Long

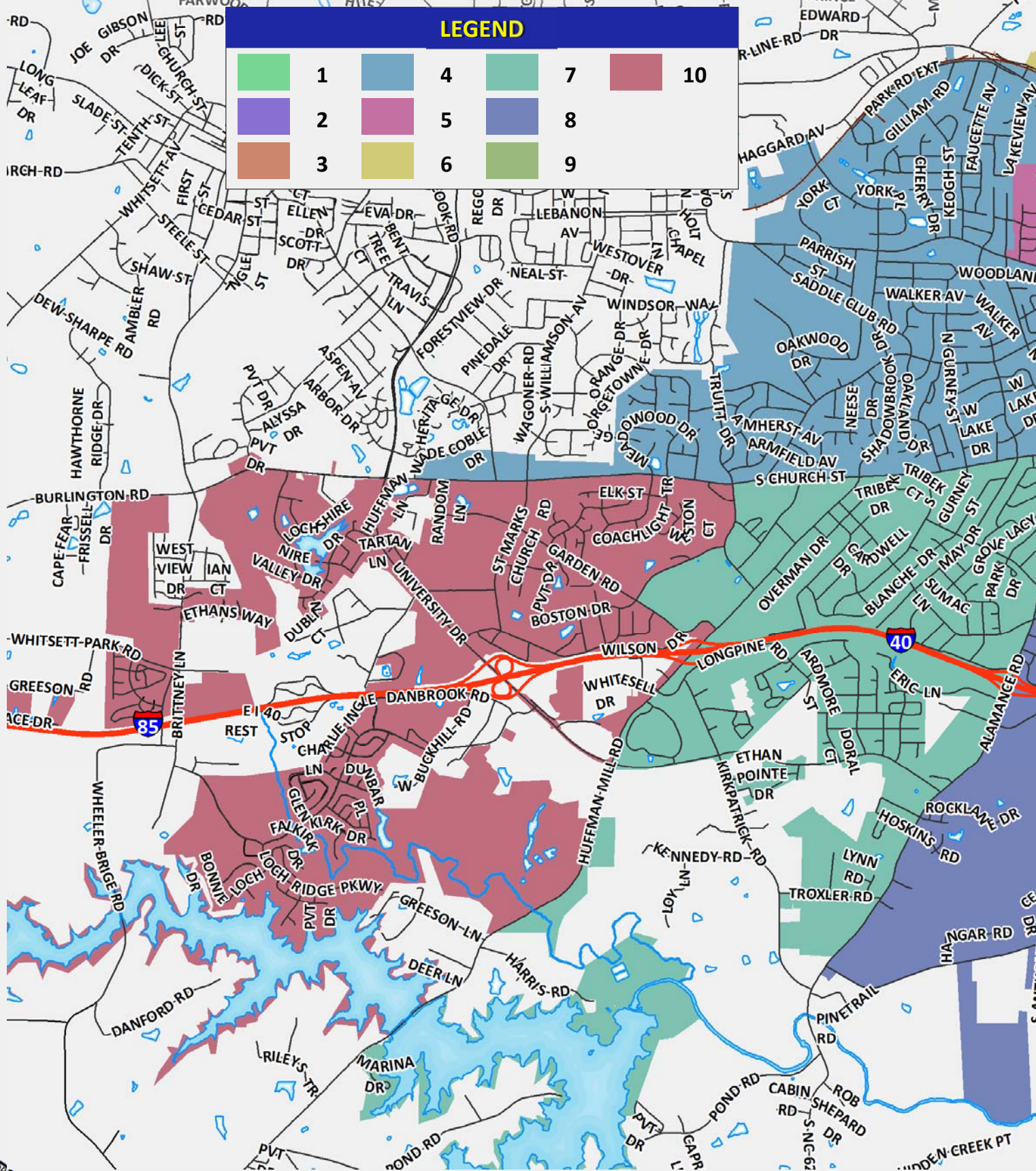


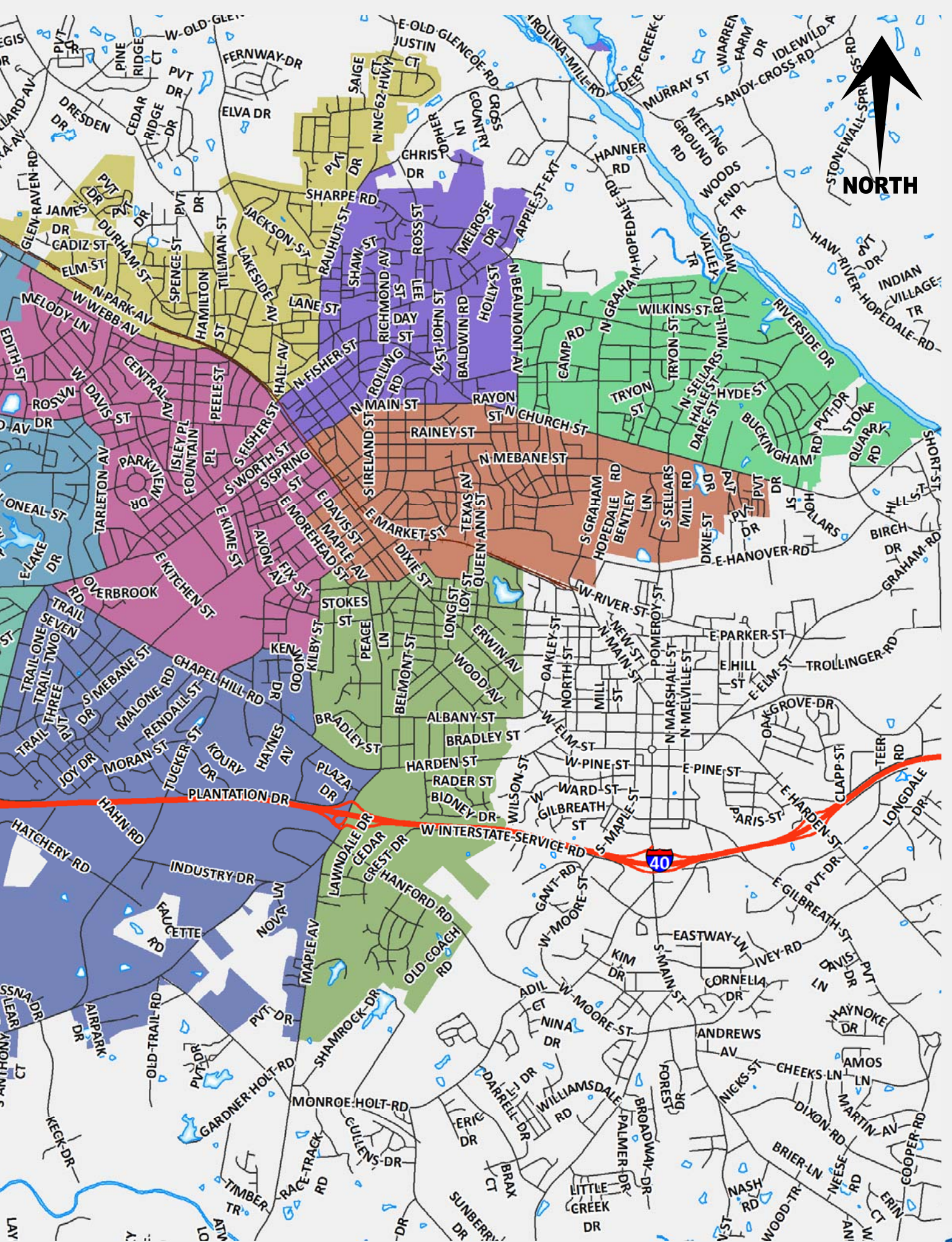
**Second Shift (E & F Shift)**  
Sergeants  
Brian Becmer & Mark Yancey



# POLICE DISTRICTS

The City of Burlington is divided into 10 districts. Each district has assigned officers who are responsible for policing activities in their district.





# CRIME CLOCK

In 2014 there were 71,317 Calls for Service or a call every 7.37 minutes that occurred within the City of Burlington, with 2,290 Calls for Service at the Police Station. 38,759 of the 71,317 calls were initiated by officers, these calls include traffic stops, suspicious conditions, building and residential checks, and community policing efforts. The Chart below and to the right list the crimes in an average week.

| Offense                                      | Approximate Number of Reported Cases in 72 Hours in 2014 |
|--|--|
| Aggravated Assault                           | 4.02   |
| All Other Criminal Offenses                  | 18.65  |
| All Other Larcenies                          | 27.02  |
| All Other Simple Assault                     | 0.04   |
| Arson  | 0.15   |
| Assisting or Promoting Prostitution          | 0.06   |
| Bigamy-marriage Laws                         | 0.02   |
| Blackmail or Extortion                       | 0.02   |
| Breaking and Entering any Building           | 1.87   |
| Buying or Receiving Stolen Property          | 0.02   |
| Child Abuse (Non-assaultive)                 | 0.31   |
| Child Neglect (Non-assaultive)               | 0.10   |
| City Ordinance Violations                    | 1.02   |
| Contempt of Court, Perjury, Court Violations | 1.42   |
| Counterfeiting                               | 0.58   |
| Disorderly Conduct                           | 0.63   |
| Driving While Impaired                       | 4.48   |
| Drug or Narcotic Violations                  | 6.94   |
| Drunk and Disruptive                         | 0.29   |
| Embezzlement                                 | 0.88   |
| Escape from Custody or Resist Arrest         | 2.67   |
| Fighting (Affray)                            | 0.42   |
| Forcible Rape                                | 0.42   |
| Forgery                                      | 0.60   |
| Fraud  | 4.98   |
| Gambling Offenses                            | 0.02   |
| Indecent Exposure                            | 0.15   |
| Kidnaping                                    | 0.29   |
| Larceny from a Motor Vehicle                 | 4.83   |
| Larceny from a Person                        | 0.13   |
| Liquor Law Violations                        | 0.85   |



| Offense                                      | Approximate Number of Reported Cases in 72 Hours in 2014 |
|--|--|
| Missing Persons                              | 2.63   |
| Motor Vehicle Theft                          | 1.87   |
| Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter         | 0.06   |
| Non-physical Threat, Intimidation            | 4.65   |
| Not Included                                 | 2.27   |
| Obscene Material/Pornography Offenses        | 0.06   |
| Other Weapon Law Violations                  | 0.02   |
| Parole and Probation Violations              | 0.02   |
| Peeping Tom                                  | 0.04   |
| Physical Assault (Non-aggravated)            | 16.15  |
| Possessing or Concealing Stolen Property     | 0.79   |
| Possessing or Concealing Weapons             | 0.90   |
| Residential Breaking or Entering             | 7.31   |
| Robbery                                      | 1.69   |
| Runaway                                      | 2.29   |
| Selling or Distributing Stolen Property      | 0.02   |
| Selling or Distributing Weapons              | 0.02   |
| Sexual Offense                               | 0.02   |
| Sexual Offenses                              | 1.12   |
| Shoplifting                                  | 3.19   |
| Theft From A Coin-Operated Machine or Device | 0.04   |
| Theft of Auto Parts or Accessories           | 0.98   |
| Traffic Offenses                             | 3.48   |
| Trespassing                                  | 1.33   |
| Using (Illegal Discharge) Weapons            | 0.02   |
| Vandalism or Damage to Property              | 11.25  |

## PATROL DIVISION

The Uniformed Patrol Division is the most visible component of the police department, providing continuous uniformed patrol services to every area of Burlington. The Patrol Division consists of 78 police officers under the command of Captain Brett Taylor.

These officers work 11 ½ hour staggered shifts and are divided among ten patrol teams. Each team is under the supervision and leadership of a Patrol Sergeant. In



order to provide continuous 24 hour police service the Patrol Division has five patrol shifts with a Patrol Lieutenant overseeing each shift. Patrol officers are the police department's first responders and as such are trained to handle the most challenging situations. These officers receive specialized training in many areas including detecting impaired drivers, speed enforcement, interview techniques, and dealing with special populations. These officers are assigned specific districts within the city and are tasked with enforcing the laws of the State



of North Carolina.

Though patrol officers are the department's first responders, they are also responsible for being proactive in their assigned district. Their proactive work includes investigating suspicious circumstances, locating and arresting wanted individuals, arresting impaired drivers, and becoming involved in community policing

activities within their district/community.

### Crime Statistic Overview for 2014

Last year Patrol Division responded to 32,558 calls for service

**Part 1 Crimes**, (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assaults, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Larceny) decreased by 4% Crimes Against Persons decreased by 5%, Arrests and

| Charge              | # of Arrests/Citations | Charge                | # of Arrests/Citations |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Murder/Manslaughter | 3                      | Stop Sign             | 0                      |
| Kidnapping          | 8                      | CCW/Weapons Violation | 43                     |
| Rape                | 3                      | Animal Violation      | 39                     |
| Robbery             | 22                     | DWLR                  | 79                     |
| Aggravated Assaults | 115                    | DWI                   | 380                    |
| Burglary            | 72                     | Noise Violation       | 11                     |
| Larceny             | 441                    | Alcohol Violation     | 222                    |
| Auto Theft          | 12                     | Resisting Arrest      | 188                    |
| Arson               | 0                      | Seat Belt             | 462                    |
| Unlawful Burning    | 0                      | Speeding              | 2004                   |
| Fraud               | 115                    | Trespassing           | 127                    |
| Injury to Property  | 146                    | Worthless Check       | 18                     |
| Drug Violation      | 507                    | Stop Light            | 252                    |
| Other               | 6651                   | NOL                   | 35                     |

Number of charges for Arrests and Citations issued in 2014. The Other category includes charges that are not specified in the chart

citations decreased from 10,971 in 2013 to 10,646 in 2014.



## CANINE PROGRAM

The Canine Program is made up of four Canine teams. A team is composed of a canine officer and a dual-purpose trained canine. The teams are utilized to search and locate illegal drugs, track suspects or missing persons, evidence searches, building searches, and criminal apprehension, in addition to normal patrol activities. When canines are not on the job, they reside with their handler, creating a full-time partnership.



A minimum of two years of police service is required to apply to become a canine officer. When an officer is selected for the program, the officer is matched with a canine partner and both must attend a basic canine course that can last up to fourteen weeks. After basic canine training, the canine team must attend sixteen hours of in-service training each month that includes legal updates and legal issues, suspect tracking, and drug and article searches. The teams attend annual certification trials, in a range of categories, conducted by the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA).

## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

The Burlington Police Department maintains a regional Special Response Team for handling the most dangerous situations. Membership on the team is completely voluntary and requires a substantial commitment on the part of each team member. Applicants must successfully pass a physical test, firearms proficiency test, and a psychological evaluation. Partnerships with the towns of Elon, Gibsonville and the city of Graham provide the team with extra personnel. Team members undergo extensive training in



marksmanship, tactics, and physical fitness. The team consists of Operators, Snipers, Tactical Medics, and Hostage Negotiators. The Team Commander is Lieutenant Chuck Ward and Sergeant Brian Becmer is the Team Leader. All these officers have other duties when they are not training or deployed on missions.

## HONOR GUARD

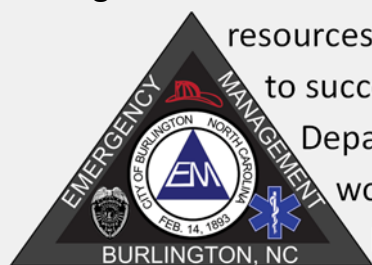
The Honor Guard Unit is a volunteer unit that is called upon for ceremonies and funerals. The Honor Guard participates in the laying of the wreath at the Annual Alamance County Law Enforcement Memorial each year. Members of the unit are from different divisions within the police department. These volunteer officers devote



a great deal of time and effort, each year, to make sure that The Burlington Police Department and the City of Burlington are well represented.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**E**mergency Management is an effort integral to public safety, including fire, police, and other city operations. The Emergency Manager is charged with coordinating the preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery efforts for the Police Department and other city departments in natural and manmade disasters and special police or fire operations. The manager is available to provide coordination and support services to the police and other departments during times when routine operations are pushed to their capacity, and additional



resources are required. A great deal of training and preparation is necessary to successfully handle a wide array of incidents. The Burlington Police Department's Emergency Management Coordinator, Roger Manuel, works relentlessly to ensure that the citizens of Burlington have the best emergency preparedness, resources, plans, and response possible.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

**T**he Burlington Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division consists of the following supervisory personnel: Captain Jeff Wood, Lieutenant Chris Gaddis, Sergeant Jeremy Coleman (Special Victim's Unit), Sergeant Dalton Majors (Crimes Against Persons and Property) and Sergeant Chris Smith (Special Operations). The Criminal Investigations Division is comprised of a Special Victim's Unit, a Crimes Against Persons and Property Unit, a Special Operations Unit, the Alamance City-County Gang Task Force, and a Victim's Assistance Unit.

### SPECIAL VICTIM'S UNIT

The Special Victim's Unit is structured with a sergeant, six (6) investigators and two (2) civilian investigators that are tasked with investigating incidents involving sexual assault, child abuse, missing persons, domestic violence, elder abuse/exploitation, and human trafficking. In 2014, The Special Victims' Unit participated in the investigation and



prosecution of the first human trafficking case in Alamance County.

## CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS AND PROPERTY UNIT

The Crimes Against Persons and Property Unit is structured with a sergeant and six (6) investigators that are responsible for investigating incidents involving robberies, murder, assault, breaking and entering, larcenies, and financial crimes. In 2014, the Crimes Against Persons and Property investigated several shooting incidents, one of which involved a murder investigation that was cleared with an arrest.

| Case Status           | Non Domestic | Domestic | Total |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| Open                  | 335          | 31       | 366   |
| Assigned out of CID   | 2            | 0        | 2     |
| Cleared by Arrest     | 97           | 132      | 229   |
| Exceptionally Cleared | 288          | 54       | 342   |
| Inactive              | 211          | 44       | 255   |
| Unfounded             | 101          | 20       | 121   |
| Totals                | 1034         | 281      | 1315  |

Crimes against Person/Property and Special Victims Unit Case Statuses for 2014.

## VICTIM'S ASSISTANCE UNIT

The Victim Assistance Unit is structured with a Victim Assistance Coordinator and a part-time Victim Assistance employee. Their mission is to provide free and confidential assistance to victims and witnesses of crime in order to address their needs due to victimization. The Victim Assistance Unit partners with community organizations and service agencies to ensure the necessary resources are provided.

## INVESTIGATIVE ANALYST

The Investigative Analyst is a civilian employee that is trained in a variety of data collection software to enhance the abilities and resources of the investigators. The software that is currently being used by the Burlington Police Department includes, Geofeedia, Cellebrite, Pen Link, and TLOxp. The Investigative Assistant is also tasked with analyzing data to determine if there are crime trends that are occurring in any particular geographical area so that the appropriate investigative techniques and strategies can be implemented.

The Burlington Police Department recognizes that domestic violence continues to be a concern for the residents of the city. It is a serious crime that requires direct police intervention and community response. The Burlington Police Department coordinates their efforts with the Family Justice Center and Family Abuse Services to provide resources for victims of domestic violence.

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT

The Special Operations Unit is tasked with investigating crimes related to illegal drug sales,

ranging from street level to high level drug trafficking, prostitution and gambling offences. Currently, the Special Operations Unit is structured with a sergeant, six (6) investigators, an ATF Task Force Officer and a DEA Task Force Officer, both of which are based out of Greensboro.

The investigations that are conducted by the Special Operations Unit are generated through Crime Stoppers information, Burlington Connected tips, information reports that are completed by departmental personnel, informant tips, and intelligence.

In April 2014, one of the investigators in Special Operations was assigned to be a Task Force Officer with the ATF. The responsibilities of this officer remained the same on the specialized teams. This officer was tasked with identifying violent criminals in possession of firearms associated with drug cases and pursues prosecuting these offenders in Federal Court. In addition to this assignment the ATF Task Force Officer is responsible for reviewing cases from each division within the Police Department.

The ATF Task Force Officer investigated and indicted sixteen (16) individuals for federal firearms and drug charges. Many of these cases were self-initiated by the Special Operations Division. In addition, cases were adopted from CID and Patrol Divisions. A total of eighteen (18) firearms, 252 grams of crack, 2.64 pounds of marijuana and \$27,400 dollars in United States Currency were seized.

During the fall of 2014, the Police Department identified a need to incorporate a county wide Drug Task Force (Alamance Narcotics Enforcement Team). The Special Operations Division from the Burlington Police Department collaborated with the Alamance County



Sheriff's Office, Graham Police, Mebane Police, Gibsonville Police, Elon Police, Elon Campus Police, NC Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) and the State Bureau of Investigation.

The Task Force consists of a lieutenant, two sergeants and seventeen investigators. The Task Force team was separated into two groups. One group of investigators was assigned to focus on high level drug dealers and a second team was assigned to focus on street level to mid-level drug dealers.

All of the investigators on the Task Force are also sworn as deputies with the Alamance County Sheriff's Office, to allow for county jurisdiction. The advantages of having the Task Force is more available resources, all drug intelligence centralized in one location and the elimination of jurisdictional problems within Alamance County. The new drug task force will better serve the citizens of the City of Burlington and Alamance County.

During the year 2014, Special Operations, seized approximately 4,250 grams of cocaine, 28,962 grams of marijuana, 40 grams of heroin, and 130 grams of different pills containing controlled substances. They have also participated in numerous operations assisting various agencies that included other local departments, state, and federal agencies.



The DEA Task Force Officers conducted an OCDETF investigation during 2014, with most of the primary targets operating in Alamance County. These groups of individuals have been responsible for distributing hundreds of kilograms of cocaine in this area. This OCDETF investigation is still ongoing and an additional eight (8) narcotic traffickers are scheduled to be indicted in January 2015 for cocaine conspiracy. These investigations have resulted in 76 arrests, 81 search warrants, 100 kilograms of cocaine seized, 220 kilograms of marijuana seized, 6.7 kilograms of heroin seized, and 8 kilograms of methamphetamine seized. The DEA Task Force Officer's investigations have resulted in the seizure of approximately 2.8 million dollars in asset forfeiture. The Burlington Police Department has approximately \$105,508 dollars pending of Federally Forfeited Assets as a result of the involvement in the investigations by the DEA-Task Force Officer. The Burlington Police Department received \$405,161.53 in asset forfeiture sharing during 2014.



## **GANG INTERVENTION UNIT**

The Alamance City-County Gang Task Force is structured with two (2) investigators from the Alamance County Sheriff's Office and two (2) investigators from the Burlington Police Department. The Burlington Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division Lieutenant is responsible for the administrative oversight of the task force and a sergeant from the Alamance County Sheriff's Office assigned to the task force is responsible for the day to day supervision of the unit.

The task force is responsible for investigating gang related crimes and identifying gang members. The task force partners with officers from other local agencies to create a cohesive, effective organization to help identify gang members and gang activity. The task force utilizes the Gang Net system to document their information gathered during investigations of gang related activities.

Intelligence gathering, gang member identification and pro-active approaches are being utilized to help prevent the growth of gangs, gang violence, and gang activity.

In 2014, the task force conducted gang awareness programs to educate individuals on gang activities and what signs to look for to indicate gang activity. In 2014, the Memorandum of Understanding was updated to include the Alamance-Burlington School System as a community based service partner. This will allow for cooperation between the school system and the task force as it relates to gang activity within the schools.

On June 1, 2014 the City of Burlington implemented the Graffiti Control and Removal Ordinance (Burlington City Code Article 3, Section 22.09). The purpose of this ordinance was to notify property owners of graffiti and to allow them a specific time in order to have

the graffiti removed.

On December 4, 2014 the FBI Safe Streets Taskforce concluded a two-year multi-jurisdictional gang based OCDETF investigation that was centered in Alamance County. The Alamance City-County Gang Crimes Taskforce assisted with the investigation from its inception. This investigation resulted in thirty individuals being charged federally and subsequently removed from our jurisdiction multiple high-ranking members of the Blood Gang subset of Sex, Money, Murder.

On August 26, 2014, the Taskforce lead investigation of the gang related shooting of Messiah May (high-ranking Blood member out of Durham) at Club Infiniti on Plantation Dr. in Burlington, resulted in the owner voluntarily handing over his ABC Permits and closed the business.

The Burlington Police Department in cooperation with other local agencies is committed to the prevention and intervention of gang activity.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Gang Awareness Programs                   | 11  |
| Gang Related Cases                        | 83  |
| Gang Case Follow-up                       | 188 |
| Gang Members Validated                    | 84  |
| Gang Related Interviews                   | 75  |
| Assisting Other Departments and Divisions | 136 |

**Gang Intervention Unit Investigative Efforts in 2014**

## BURLINGTON CONNECTED

The City of Burlington changed the highly successful CBC (Connecting Burlington Communities) complaint program into “Burlington Connected”. The process is very similar to the CBC program, but is a more user friendly process. The Special Operations Division and now the Alamance County Drug Task Force continues to investigate matters related to Burlington Connected complaints. The Burlington Connected program continues to be a valuable asset to the community and Police Department. Burlington Connected complaints are also being distributed to the Patrol Division Lieutenants, which are then assigned to district officers where the complaints stem from. This helps patrol officers get directly involved in the community they patrol, and address citizen complaints in a more timely fashion. Residents can now submit their concerns/issues online at [www.BurlingtonNC.gov/BurlingtonConnected](http://www.BurlingtonNC.gov/BurlingtonConnected) or through the customized, GPS integrated “Burlington Connected” mobile application, available free in the Apple App Store, Google Play, or the Windows Store. Residents without smartphones or access to the web can submit service requests by phone at (336) 222-5024.

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

The Professional Standards Division under the direction of Captain Steve Smith is responsible for many of the day to day behind the scenes functions of the Police Department. The division includes Crime Analysis, Records Section, Property & Evidence



## CRIME ANALYSIS

Crime Analyst focuses on the analyzing of reported crimes and calls for service looking for trends or patterns. The analyst gives regular reports of crime statistics to the department and public. When a pattern or trend appears the analyst forwards these findings to the appropriate channels for action. Using relevant data the department has taken an approach to combating crime known as Intelligence Led Policing to proactively combat crime issues throughout the community. This approach allows the department to effectively use its resources.

## TRAINING SECTION

The Training Section, under the leadership of Director Allyson Norton, is responsible for the training of officers and Departmental staff. The section conducts training throughout the year that outside agencies also attend.

The section also provides in-service training, which includes North Carolina State-mandated topics, RADAR Certifications and Recertification, and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST). This training is conducted by instructors and Departmental employees who have been certified by the State of North Carolina Training and Standards Commission. In 2014 the section completed over 5,000 hours of State-mandated training which includes Firearms Training, Legal Updates, Ethics, Juvenile and Minority Sensitivity Training, Bias Based Profiling. An additional 10,000 hours of training was conducted in SFST classes, Basic Intoxilyzer Training and Recertification, Division of Criminal Information (DCI) Certification Training, Driving Training, Leadership and Supervision, and related Law Enforcement classes. For classes that are not available at the Department, the Training Section prepares travel plans and registration for officers and Departmental staff to obtain training primarily throughout the state. They conduct Subject Control Arrest Techniques (SCAT), Police Officer Physical Abilities Test (POPAT) and Officer Survival training at the Belmont Training Facility. In addition to training, the section provides officers with their



Departmental-issued uniforms and equipment. The section continually receives feedback from officers to keep them supplied with up-to-date equipment, exchanging out faulty or broken equipment, and ensuring that officers have the correct equipment to perform their job efficiently and safely. The Burlington Police Department's Training Section is dedicated to providing employees with industry best practices of training with an overall objective of delivering professional customer service and officer safety.

## PROPERTY & EVIDENCE SECTION

The Property & Evidence Section, under the supervision of Lori Oxendine is responsible for all evidence collected by officers. They log evidence in and out of their custody using a bar coding system, and they maintain the integrity of the evidence in a secure area until it is needed for court. In

2014, a total of 10,567 pieces of evidence were received, including 3,270 packages of controlled substances and 203 weapons.

When evidence is no longer needed, it is disposed of pursuant to a court order. When an officer recovers a firearm, the Property & Evidence personnel complete the necessary Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) documentation and submit it to the ATF to trace the history of that firearm. In 2014 Property & Evidence personnel submitted 18 such firearms traces.

The Property & Evidence Section assists investigators in photographing, documenting, and searching crime scenes for evidence, as well as in collecting, processing, and preserving that evidence. Property & Evidence personnel also submit evidence to the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) forensic laboratory for analysis. In 2014 the Property & Evidence section submitted 146 items of evidence to the SBI lab. Property & Evidence personnel also processed 25,829 digital images, and examined 697 latent fingerprints at the Burlington Police Department. Property & Evidence personnel are responsible for the classification, searching and filing of fingerprint impressions obtained from arrestees.

## RECORDS SECTION

The Records Section, under the supervision of Darsell Johnson, is responsible for the storing of all police reports (5,989 in 2014), accident reports, felony investigative reports, DNA Sample sheets, citations, subpoenas, arrest records, and other files that involve some action regarding police activity. The section keeps statistics of traffic incidents, sends monthly reports of crimes and incidents to the state, and processes court expunction orders. The section provides citizens with accident reports, and insurance verifications pertaining to crimes or accidents. The section also fingerprints citizens needing prints for an employment application for a nominal fee. The section includes the "Teleserve" program, a service that allows reports of minor crimes to be filed via telephone or at the Police Department, thus offering faster service to the victims of crimes.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

The Community Relations Division, under the direction of Captain Chad Slaughter, includes the Traffic Enforcement and Safety Team, Parking Enforcement Unit, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Officers, School Resource Officers, the Junior



Police Academy (J.P.A.), 911 Communications Center, Community Outreach, Crime Prevention, Crime Stoppers, and the Auxiliary/Volunteer Services.

## CRIMESTOPPERS

The Crimestoppers program has been a successful tool helping to identify offenders who victimize the community. A multi-agency organization, it consists of representatives from law enforcement agencies in Alamance County, as well as a core group of concerned citizen volunteers. Regular meetings are held to identify cases that merit publicity. Cases are then placed on the radio and community television for publicity. Calls received are assigned an anonymous number. If the information received proves to be valid, Crimestoppers provides rewards to the caller in an anonymous manner. Since its inception in 1982, Crimestoppers has paid over \$75,000.00 for information. Remember, You need not Reveal your Identity!

**SAY NO THIS TIME, REPORT A CRIME 229-7100.**

## CRIME PREVENTION

The Burlington Police Department Crime Prevention/Community Relations officers work closely with several community boards in an effort to assess the needs of the community and work to ensure a safer environment. The primary crime prevention related programs are departmental tours, presentations, Neighborhood Watch, and National Night Out (NNO). Programs offered by the police department take place in diverse city locations and communities. Crime Prevention employees conduct most of the departmental tours in an attempt to free up patrol officers and have conducted over 50 presentations annually for the past four years. Presentations are provided for targeted sectors of the general public that include seniors, churches, civic groups, neighborhood associations, businesses, schools, the chamber of commerce, apartment management, and tenants. Prevention officers regularly participate in community functions such as career, health and information fairs. They are easily reached by the public through phone and internet contact, as well as referrals by fellow officers.

In 2014, a total of 82 presentations or tours were organized by the department as a whole, with crime prevention accounting for 53% of the total.

Annually, National Night Out is organized on the first Tuesday of August. The program continues to have successful participation from the neighborhood associations, Police Department, Fire Department, Mayor, City Council, and City Manager. Participation for 2014 NNO was excellent from all involved. Twenty-Nine locations participated. Business



sponsorship of the event was provided by Golden Corral and BJ's Wholesale Club.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Granville Simmons is the Police Department's Community Outreach Specialist (OS). He manages collaborative activities that are designed to strengthen communities and enhance relations between the public and the department. Mr. Simmons continues to participate in the following boards and committees: Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Youth Council of the Workforce Development Board, Community Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking, and the Alamance Partnership for Children. Through these collaborative efforts, the program leverages additional resources and exemplifies the Police Department's commitment to improving the quality of life throughout the city. Among other tasks, the OS oversees the six Spanish language contract interpreters used by the department to facilitate accurate communication and professional service delivery to our growing Latino community. They responded 29 times during the year 2014, roughly the same as the previous year with 31 responses. The contract interpreters are not always available to respond when called. The response rate for 2014 was 83%, that is, 29 of 35 incidents requiring their services. The numbers for 2013 and 2012 were 95% and 100% respectfully. The AT&T Language Line was also available for the remaining 17% of requests to which the interpreters did not respond and 911 calls. This, our second tier interpreter service, was documented to have been used 39 times. Our third tier usage involves the city-issued smart phones that officers carry which have a free application that translates speech. For walk-ins to the PD, the OS served as an in-house interpreter for the Spanish language, documenting 52 incidents of interpretation on his part for 2014. In-house interpretation was also done by another three bilingual civilian employees and two bilingual officers. Using a combination of in-house interpreters and community volunteers, the OS also oversaw the translation of documents for the PD. These and many other efforts contribute to strong partnerships with the varied communities throughout our city.



## CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

The Citizens Police Academy is designed to increase the community's understanding and awareness of the Burlington Police Department. The objective of the academy is to build **"Trust Through Transparency"** with the citizens of Burlington, increase the level of communication between the citizens and employees of the Burlington Police Department and provide education and insight to citizens of the community concerning the job functions and duties of a Burlington Police Officer. Citizens are exposed to many different aspects of law enforcement including the day-to-day operation of the Burlington Police Department. Some of the topics students



have experienced include:

- Overview of the Police Profession and Criminal Justice System
- Emergency Management and Communications
- Patrol Operations/Equipment Demonstrations
- Traffic Enforcement/DWI Enforcement
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Criminal Investigations
- Gang Awareness
- K-9 Demonstrations
- Arrest Procedures



## AUXILIARY SERVICES UNIT

The Auxiliary Services Unit coordinates the resources of the Police Reserves, Police Chaplains, Citizen Volunteers and Student Interns. Police reserves are sworn officers who have left the Department in good standing and are used to augment the work of full time officers. Police reserves may be used for events that require multiple officer staffing, such as parades and public events, specific patrol areas, such as Downtown and City park, or any area that may relieve a full time sworn officer.

Police Chaplains provide spiritual guidance to Sworn and civilian staff, assist in family notifications, conduct Sunday Line-Up Devotionals and are available to any employee or their family in times of spiritual need.

Citizen Volunteers are graduates of the Citizen's Police Academy and are available to assist in the needs of any sworn or civilian staff that needs assistance in special projects or tasks that will allow a paid employee to be used for more detailed jobs.

Student Interns are students enrolled in an accredited high school or college/university who wish to have a better understanding of the profession of law enforcement. Interns are given a structured plan that reinforces concepts used in the classroom along with practical hands on examples to provide a real life example of theory/practice.

The mission statement of the Auxiliary Services Unit is **to serve with purpose**. Regardless of the role that they fill, their goal is to serve with the specific purpose of making a positive impact on those that they come in contact with.

## DRUG AWARENESS RESISTANCE EDUCATION

The Burlington Police Department has three officers assigned to teach Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D. A. R. E.). One officer teaches the elementary curriculum fulltime and the other two School Resource Officers (SROs) teach the middle school curriculum. These officers have completed an extensive training course that focuses on teaching children the dangers of drug abuse. They also teach children how to resist the peer

pressures that our children confront every day in the way of drugs and alcohol. Kids also learn about good decision making skills and avoiding high risk behavior. The program is funded from various sources including the D. A. R. E. golf tournament and the generous allocation of drug seizure money.



Sports are also used to help stress the importance of staying involved in positive alternatives to substance abuse, violence, and gangs. D. A. R. E. sponsors an annual middle school basketball tournament to promote healthy alternatives to substance abuse, build self confidence and teamwork skills. D. A. R. E. officers work cooperatively with the Burlington Recreation & Parks Department to organize an annual D. A. R. E. Days in the Park event recognizing all fifth grade elementary students who have successfully completed the D. A. R. E. curriculum during the school year. D. A. R. E. officers promote their program with activities such as the Carousel Festival.

## JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

The Burlington Police Department Junior Police Academy is a nationally recognized youth program developed by the Burlington Police Department in 1996. It currently involves a collaborative effort by the Burlington Police Department, Graham Police Department, Alamance County Sheriff's Department, and Alamance Burlington School System (ABSS) with a mission intended to provide



“at risk” middle school aged youth social skills that can make them more productive students and members of our community. Cadets are chosen by law enforcement staff from students recommended by ABSS who are considered to be at risk and likely to benefit from



the Junior Police Academy. Cadets undergo a very structured, well disciplined, four week training program, focusing on respect; goal setting and self esteem; conflict resolution and mediation; violence, substance abuse, and gang prevention; decision making skills; self-discipline; along with

community service activities. Training is conducted at the North Carolina Justice Academy in Salemburg, NC and at the Burlington Police/Fire Training Center on Stone Quarry Road.

## COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

The Communications Section of the Burlington Police Department is responsible for



dispatching fire and police personnel in response to calls for service by the public. The Communications Section is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For emergencies the public should dial 911. For non-emergencies please dial 229-3500.



| Five Year Calls for Service Volume   |       |       |       |       |       |        |         |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
|  | 2010  | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | TOTAL  | AVERAGE |
| Law  | 70313 | 74196 | 74662 | 79807 | 76726 | 367033 | 73407   |
| EMS  | 6053  | 6160  | 6667  | 6849  | 6876  | 32605  | 6521    |
| Fire   | 1314  | 1173  | 1156  | 1245  | 1549  | 6437   | 1287    |
| Total  | 77680 | 81529 | 82485 | 87901 | 85151 | 414746 | 82949   |
| Includes Administrative Duty Calls and Evidence Submission and Cancelled Calls |       |       |       |       |       |        |         |

## TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit serves as the agency's lead component for traffic safety and enforcement. Sergeant Reid Metters is the supervisor of this unit. Activities and responsibilities include traffic safety education and enforcement of all traffic laws.

The Traffic Team focuses on citywide traffic enforcement via speed measuring instruments, analysis of accidents, monitoring of traffic patterns and traffic safety operations. The Traffic Enforcement Safety Team is the lead unit for participation in special traffic operations such as the "Click It or Ticket" and "Booze-It-And Lose-It" campaigns.

Traffic enforcement activities focus on high accident areas, citizen complaints, motorist assistance, funeral escorts, parades and any other conditions that affect traffic safety. The Traffic Enforcement Safety Team is responsible for the preliminary investigation of traffic accidents and follow-up investigations of hit and run crashes as well as other reported traffic complaints.

## PARKING ENFORCEMENT

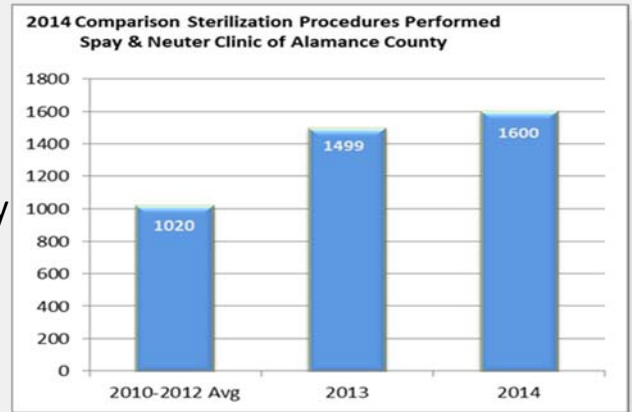
Parking Enforcement is responsible for enforcing parking in the Downtown Business area, and also in front of Williams High School, to provide citizens equal opportunity to have access to available parking. In addition, the Parking Enforcement Supervisor manages 22 School Crossing Guards who ensure the safety of children crossing streets at their schools.

## ANIMAL SERVICES

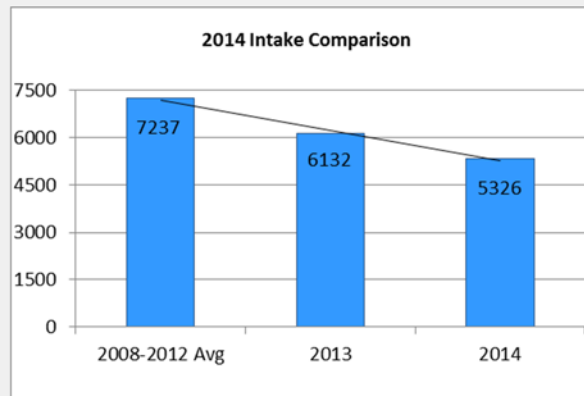
During 2014 the downward trend in animal admissions continued with 16% fewer animals than the previous year. The reduction in shelter admissions correlates with increased spay/neuter in the community, including but not limited to the City's low-cost spay and neuter clinic.

As more animals from our community are sterilized , a correlation is seen in the reduced number of unwanted pets that enter the shelter.

Animal placement is an important element of Animal Services and includes pet adoptions by members of the public and non-profit animal rescue organizations and lost pets recovered by their owner (RTO). In combination with community low-cost spay/neuter, reduced shelter admissions, the animal placement programs are critical to reducing euthanasia. In 2014 significant increases were made in the number of pet placements, or “Live Release” of pets as a result of sheltering programs with increased focus on community outreach and partnerships with non-profit

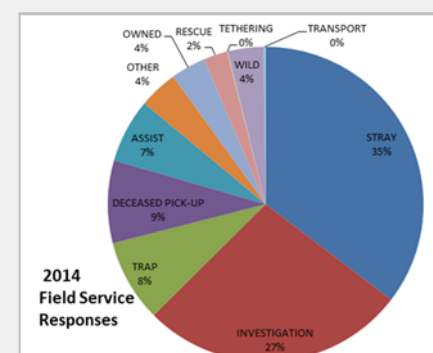
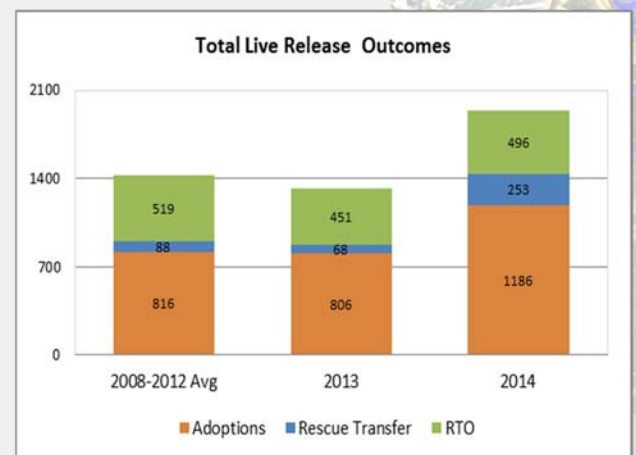
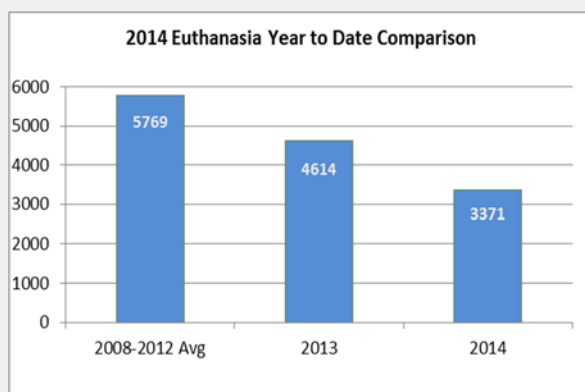


animal agencies. The 32% increase to Placements enabled a 27% reduction in euthanasia from the previous year.



Animal Services' is responsible for enforcing laws pertaining to the welfare and control of animals within the city limits of Burlington. Enforcement activities range from investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty and neglect cases, violations of rabies, leash and nuisance laws and investigating

potential dangerous dog complaints. During 2014 Animal Control Officers responded to a total of 3169 calls for service in the city limits of Burlington the majority of which related to stray dogs, or investigations of cruelty complaints and code violations.







**BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**267 West Front Street**  
**Burlington, NC 27216**